



City of Edmonds Media Release

EDMONDS POLICE DEPARTMENT ~ 250th Avenue North

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 17, 2017

To: Media

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Investigation continues into overnight vandalism

More victims come forward as officers look for leads on a suspect

Edmonds, WA

Beginning early this morning patrol officers took two reports from residents in the Westgate neighborhood that swastikas had been spray painted on vehicles and residences. There were also reports of similar acts in nearby parts of unincorporated Edmonds that were referred to the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office. During interviews of the Edmonds victims there was no information that led them or the investigating officers to believe that they were targeted because of any specific protected class.

Throughout the day we have received five reports from victims reporting damage to their property with this symbol as well as other damage from spray paint. We are continuing to examine each incident as well as the incident as a whole to determine if there is a specific reason these people were targeted. We have also notified the local FBI office to make them aware of the situation as we do in any investigation that may include a possible hate crime motivation.

At this point none of the of the victims feel that they were targeted due to their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or mental, physical or sensory handicap. However, the Edmonds Police Department is continuing to investigate these crimes as possible hate crimes in addition to the crime of vandalism.

Chief Compaan responded to these incidents:

"This sort of criminal behavior has no place in our society and is strongly condemned by me and any who stand up for the law

and basic human dignity. We are asking for the public's help with identifying suspects."

The Edmonds Police Department will investigate this matter as we do all matters that affect the quality of life and safety for our residents. We will continue to look for evidence that assists us in identifying a suspect or suspects in this matter and making an arrest. If you have any information please contact us at 425-771-0212 or epdtips.edmondswa.gov .

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